

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /170 W

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P R 131750Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 591

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3923

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, HU

SUBJECT: GASOLINE FOR HUNGARIAN AIRCRAFT

REF: SAIGON 20815

1. IN ABSENCE OF DEPUTY FONMIN MARJAI, UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE OF INVOLVEMENT WITH VISIT PRG DELEGATION (BUDAPEST 3881), CHARGE CALLED LATE DECEMBER 12 ON RANKING AVAILABLE FONOFF OFFICIAL IN DEPARTMENT IV (ASIAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES) TO CONVEY ESSENTIAL POINTS REFTEL. OUTLINED SUBSTANCE PARAS 2 AND 3 UNDERLINING IN PROCESS THAT INABILITY OF SHELL TO SUPPLY HUNGARIANS DUE DIRECTLY TO PRG ATTACK ON FUEL FACILITIES IN OPEN VIOLATION CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT.

2. CHARGE WENT ON TO SAY THAT JUST HAVING RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON, HE WISHED TO UNDERSCORE ONCE MORE US DISSATISFACTION WITH PERFORMANCE ICCS DELEGATION IN VIETNAM. SAID IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HUNGARIAN UNWILLINGNESS TO BE EVEN SLIGHTLY CRITICAL OF DRV OR PRG WHICH ONLY LEAD TO SUSPICION THAT SOME CHICANERY IS AFOOT. CHARGE UNDERLINED POTENTIALLY SERIOUS IMPACT ON US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS

SHOULD IT DEVELOP THAT NORTH VIETNAM LAUNCHES AN ATTACK INTO THOSE AREAS OF SOUTH VIETNAM FROM WHICH BOTH HUNGARIAN AND POLISH REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN.

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3. IN REPLY FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL NOTED THAT SITUATION SEEMED TO HAVE QUIETED DOWN CONSIDERABLY LAST WEEK IN MOST OF SOUTH. SAID HE FELT QUITE CONFIDENT NO NORTH VIETNAM MILITARY OFFENSIVE ACTION CONTEMPLATED. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT DEC 7 PLEANRY HAD BEEN MOST PRODUCTIVE IN SOME TIME. HUNGARIANS PLEASED WITH WAY IRANIANS HAD HANDLED MATTERS WHICH HE SAID CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH "PUSHY" TACTICS EMPLOYED BY CANADIANS. SAID UNDERSTANDING REACHED ON PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATING CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS ON CHRONOLOGICAL BASIS FROM NOVEMBER AS WELL AS OCTOBER BACKLOG. CHARGE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF NOT CARRYING OUT INVESTIGATIONS IN STRICT CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER BEGINNING WITH OCTOBER REQUESTS BUT RATHER WITH MOST RECENT REQUEST REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION. EXPRESSED HOPE THAT HUNGARIANS WOULD CARRY OUT INVESTIGATIONS IMMEDIATELY
ALONG WITH OTHER TEAMS WHEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.

4. CHARGE' SEIZED OCCASION TO INQUIRE ONCE AGAIN RE AGREEMENT REGARDING MISSING PA&E EMPLOYEES. QUITE OBVIOUSLY EMBARRASSED BY FAILURE TO DELIVER ON MARJAI PROMISE, FONOFF OFFICIAL MUMBLED ONLY THAT VIETNAMESE ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH. IMPLIED, HOWEVER THAT MATTER DISCUSSED WITH PRG DELEGATION CURRENTLY VISITING BUDAPEST, LAMENTING AT SAME TIME THAT "TOO MANY COOKS SPOIL THE STEW", A REMARK DIRECTED PRESUMABLY AT POLES OR OTHERS. IMMEDIATELY AFTER MAKING THIS REMARK, FONOFF OFFICIAL OBSERVED THAT PRG DELEGATION WOULD SOON BE PAYING OFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW.

5. ACCORDING TO FONOFF, ARRIVAL OF MALEV FLIGHT DEC 16 IN SAIGON WILL COMPLETE FULL ROTATION MILITARY MEMBERS HUNGARIAN ICCS DELEGATION. FONOFF PERSONNEL WILL FOLLOW AT IRREGULAR INTERVALS ON COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS OVER NEXT FEW WEEKS. WHEN ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE (SEE SEPTTEL) OF ESZTERGALYOS' REPLACEMENT, EMBASSY PLANS TO CALL ON HIM TO REVIEW ONCE MORE FOR HIS PERSONAL BENEFIT RECORD HUNGARIAN ICCS DETACHMENT, AND TO EMPHASIZE AS WELL IMPORTANCE WE CONTINUE TO ATTACH TO PARIS AGREEMENT AND ICCS.
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